Dinka

Multivaluation @ Frankfurt

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1 Language Information

- Source: Nebel (1948)

- Glottlog: http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/nort2815

- ISO-identifier: dip

- Speakers:

- Location: Sudan

- Geneology: Nilotic > Western Nilotic > Dinka-Nuer > Dinka > Northeastern Dinka

2 Nominal Morphology

Plurality can be expressed in many ways - short vowel becomes long; long vowel becomes short; the vowel changes (if the word is one-syllable); the ending of the noun changes; the plural word is different from the singular one.

3 Verbal Morphology

The verb does not agree in person or number with the subject.

4 Conjunction

Ke/kek 'and, with' conjoins nouns, *ku* 'and, but' and *go* 'and' can coordinate phrases and clauses. If the subject is a pronoun, *go* contracts with it.

(1) wa ke ma
     ?
     'my father and my mother' [Nebel, 1948, p. 14]

(2) mony kek tiɛŋde
?
'this man with his wife' [Nebel, 1948, p. 14]

(3) ror ku diar
?
'men and women' [Nebel, 1948, p. 93]

(4) miith ku kɔc dit
?
'children and grown ups' [Nebel, 1948, p. 93]

(5) wur ke mor
?
'your father and your mother' [Nebel, 1948, p. 93]

(6) wun kek man
?
'his father and his mother' [Nebel, 1948, p. 93]

(7) wa kek miith wa
?
'my father and my brothers' [Nebel, 1948, p. 93]

(8) Yak keke dhak kɔk
?
'Yak with the other boys' [Nebel, 1948, p. 93]

(9) ɣɔn akal tok meth ëtɔ thin ku anɛk cɔk apɛidit ku aci mieth jal yok.
?
'Once there was a child and it was very hungry and at last it found food.'
[Nebel, 1948, p. 94]

(10) Ku ci miethke muɔc.
?
'And he did not give his children (anything).' [Nebel, 1948, p. 94]

(11) Ku akec riai yok.
?
'And he did not find the canoe.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 94]

(12) ku kat meth / ku kɛt
?
'And (the child) ran away.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 94]

(13) ku cam kuin/ ku ciɛm
?
'And he ate (porridge).' [Nebel, 1948, p. 94]

(14) ku luelke
      ?

      'And they said.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 94]

(15) ku yen anɛk tuil apɛi
      ?

      'And he had a great longing.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 94]

(16) Go bɛny bɛn ku leul.
      ?

      'And the chief came and said.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 94]

(17) ruon war ok aci lɔɔ Kir goku rec dɔm apɛi
      ?

      'Last year we went to the Kir and we caught a lot of fish.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 95]

(18) monytui acaa lat gua yup nhom
      ?

      'That man insulted me and I hit (him) on the head.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 95]

(19) go ɣa yup nhom
      ?

      'And the other people did not come.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 95]

5   Disjunction

The is no equivalent of the English 'or'. The conjunctions *ku* and *ke* can be used.

(20) cɔl ran tok kamken Dut kek Bol
      ?

      'Call one of them Dut or Bol.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 95]

(21) ba ŋo looi, ba reer tɛn aba kook baai?
      ?

      'What shall I do, shall I stay here or shall I move my place of residence?' [Nebel, 1948, p. 95]

(22) ɣɛn akuc lɔn bii ɣen reer baai ku lɔn bii ɣen lɔ keny
      ?

      'I do not know if I shall stay at home or if I shall set out on a journey.' [Nebel, 1948, p. 95]

6   Prepositions

1. *tene* 'to, from'

2. *kam* 'between'

3. *rin* 'for, on behalf, for the sake of, by reason of'

4. *ɣet* 'until, as far as'

5. *ke (kek)* 'with, and'

6. *cok* 'under, at the foot of'

7. *kɔu* 'behind'

8. *cok cien* 'after'

9. *nhom tuey* 'before'

References

Nebel, Arturo (1948). *Dinka grammar (Rek - Malual Dialect) with Texts and Vocabulary.* Verona: Missioni Africane.